metroNEWS

City's homeless brutalized on our streets

NEPAL

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Toronto metro

Your essential daily news | MONDAY, APRIL 27, 2015

JENNER A 'HERO' TO FAMILY

metroLIFE

High 8°C/Low 4°C Cloudy with showers

RAPTORS SWEPT AWAY

WIZARDS WIN SERIES 4-0. Raptors guards DeMar DeRozan and Kyle Lowry walk to the bench in Game 4 of the NBA playoffs Sunday. Stories in **metroNEWS**, **metroSPORTS.** THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Politics will be hard: Ex-chief

FEDERAL CANDIDACY

Blair seeking nomination for Liberals in Scarborough

Dressed in a plain black suit, blue shirt and striped tie, retired Toronto police chief Bill Blair stepped outside his comfort zone Sunday on his first day as a civilian and aspiring federal Liberal candidate.

"Public safety was easy. Locking up the bad guys is a piece of cake," he quipped after greeting several dozen Sikh police officers at the CNE before Sunday's Khalsa Day parade.

"This other thing is hard."

Blair is entering federal politics and seeking the Liberal nomination in Scarborough Southwest, a community where he has lived most of his life. Former CTV anchor Tim Weber is also running for the Liberal nomination. The riding is held by New Democrat Dan Harris.

Bill Blair during Khalsa Day. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Blair's 10-year tenure as chief officially ended Saturday night. But Toronto's former top officer said he couldn't miss the annual Khalsa Day celebration, which marks the Sikh New Year. The parade drew an estimated 100,000 people to downtown streets Sunday.

"I have a very special relationship with this community. I have been coming to this event for 25 years," said Blair. Over his suit, he wore an orange scarf he received several years ago during a visit to the Golden Temple in Amritsar, a holy Sikh site in Punjab, India.

Many police officers at the event seemed pleased their old boss is making the leap into federal politics.

"He really is authentic. He cares about people," said Staff Supt. Rick Stubbings, a member of Blair's senior management team for 10 years and the senior officer at the event.

Although Blair said he had "respectful conversations with everybody," he chose the Liberals because the party's "values most closely fit with my own."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

KHALSA DAY PHOTOS, PAGE 3

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metro NEWS
• LOCAL
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Your essential daily news
Monday, April 27, 2015

SIKHS CELEBRATE THOUSANDS JOIN PARADE About 100,000 people turned out Sunday at the Better Living Centre at the CNE for the 30th annual Khalsa Day parade along Lakeshore Boulevard West and up to Nathan Phillips Square. Below, a father and son take in the Khalsa Day celebrations, a commemoration of Vaisakhi, the Sikh New Year.
COLIN MCCONNELL/TORONTO STAR

All aboard for new-look Union

TRANSIT

Extra space makes station less crowded

Luke Simcoe
Metro | Toronto

The newly-renovated York Street concourse at Union Station will help alleviate crowding at the transit hub and make it easier for people to get to their GO trains, Metrolinx says.

After two years of construction, the 62,000-square-foot concourse is being unveiled to the public Monday. The building features new self-serve ticketing machines and additional connections to Toronto's PATH system.

Most importantly, it boasts more space, said Metrolinx spokeswoman Anne Marie Aikins.

"The first time I saw it when it was finished, I went 'holy smokes, look at how much room we have,'" she said.

> **Holy smokes, look at how much room we have.**
> Anne Marie Aikins, Metrolinx

Union already serves an estimated 200,000 passengers per day, according to the city's website, and with the province investing in regional rail, more are on their way.

By the time the Bay Street concourse on the other side of the station is renovated, Union will have triple its original capacity, Aikins said.

Both entrances will remain open during the Pan Am Games this summer, Metrolinx said, but the Bay concourse will close for renovations once the event is over.

Metrolinx is hosting a customer appreciation day on Tuesday from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m., featuring a performance by the Saint Michael's Boys Choir.

The spacious new York Street concourse at Union Station took two years to construct. COURTESY OF METROLINX

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ACCESSIBILITY

Hydro pole blocks wheelchair's path

Jessica Smith Cross
Metro | Toronto

Poorly positioned hydro poles are causing accessibility problems for Torontonians, a city councillor says.

A resident in Ward 22 St. Paul's asked Coun. Josh Matlow to come out and see a Hydro pole on Davisville Avenue, west of Yonge Street, that had recently been moved across the street because of a construction project and placed right in the middle of the sidewalk.

"He's a resident who visits a friend at a retirement home on Davisville. His friend is in a wheelchair and he often takes him for a walk and so he's had first-hand experience of the problem," he said.

"The problem is that Toronto Hydro has put poles deep into the sidewalk right-of-way and created very narrow space along that side of Davisville for anyone to get by, let alone someone in a wheelchair."

Coun. Josh Matlow tweeted this photo of a hydro pole on Davisville Avenue that is causing accessibility problems. CONTRIBUTED

Matlow has been in contact with Toronto Hydro to work on a solution to the problem.

"As far as people with disabilities go, they have the right to have fully accessible sidewalks and Toronto Hydro needs to be a partner in that," he said.

He noted there have been similar complaints about a pole in the middle of the Queen's Quay bike path.

Toronto Hydro spokeswoman Tori Gass said the reason poles end up in sidewalks is they must be placed back from traffic, and when construction projects require poles to be relocated, sometimes there are no good options.

Gass can't say how many awkwardly placed poles there are, noting the large number of construction sites in the city.

But she said that many of the condo construction projects take long enough that the "temporary" poles may be in place for years.

"We had a supervisor do a site visit," said Gass. "He was able to find out that there is some significant roadwork happening in the area, as well as a new condo project. During times like this, we're often required to relocate our infrastructure or equipment.

"In this case it's not clear if the pole will be permanently installed in this location or if it's temporary."

Matlow said the poles are one reason the city should be strict when it comes to permitting developers to use public space in construction projects.

"As developers are occupying more and more of the public right of way in staging their construction, it creates a great burden on the public."

Hafsah Shaikh gets a lift from her father Afsah as they watch the Raptors-Wizards game Sunday at the outdoor fan zone known as Jurassic Park. GILBERT NGABO/METRO

Raps fans down, out

POST-SEASON

Wizards hand Toronto team humiliation

Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

Halfway through the second quarter, when the Toronto Raptors were trailing the Washington Wizards by 20 points, a police officer at the outdoor fan zone known as Jurassic Park was screaming: "Defence! Defence!"

He was one of hundreds of diehard fans begging for it. But down the stretch, their cheers had yet to work out.

By the end of third quarter, the hole had grown to 32, and more than half of the fans had already headed out of the popular park in front of Air Canada Centre.

They could not have been more downtrodden had they been watching at the Verizon Center in Washington, D.C., where the game was actually being played. Watching the Raptors lose the final game of their season on the big screen in Toronto was just as bad.

The Raptors fell 125-94 to the Wizards and were swept from their opening-round NBA playoff series, four games to none.

"Just awful," one man said as he unwrapped the Raptors flag around him on his way home

"Down and out," declared Ahmed Mohamad, a health management student at York University, who's watched every one of the four playoffs games at the park.

"But we'll come back next year. I still believe in the North."

It had been a different mood earlier in the evening. You'd have thought it was the Toronto team up 3-0, judging by the party mood at the park. Every time a Raptor found the bottom of the hoop, hopeful fans jumped up in celebration.

"We want a win," screamed Hafsah Shaikh, 8. She and little sister Maryam, 5, spent much of the evening taking turns on their father's shoulders.

"They love basketball as much as I do," said Afzah Shaikh, as he tried to catch some giveaway T-shirts being thrown into the crowd. The most important thing, he said, would be to win Game 4 and be able to play back at ACC.

They'll have to wait longer for that. After suffering a regular-season sweep at the hands of the Raptors, the Wizards rode the wisdom of veteran Paul Pierce and the quickness of John Wall, and handed Toronto its worst humiliation of the post-season.

Just as they kept believing in Raptors, fans also didn't shy away from expressing their displeasure at an opponent that has given them so many nightmares in this playoff series.

Boos could be heard every time Pierce touched the ball. Some fans, including Kirk Durrell, were wearing T-shirts that addressed obscenities to the Wizards team.

It was all in the spirit of believing in the Raptors and hoping they could bounce back. It wasn't to be.

"Just ran out of luck, obviously," said Durrell.

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Reflecting on 5 days without

CHALLENGE DAY 5

Metro reporter finishes with a new perspective

Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

"You didn't have to go through this."

That's roughly the sentence I heard over and over again over the past five days during which I lived on $1.75 a day. Most reactions from family members, friends and workmates were supportive, but a few suggested that volunteering for extreme poverty was almost going overboard. Someone even said, in an email, that it was a "trite experiment," calling it offensive to those who are in real struggle to make ends meet.

I don't necessarily concur with their views, but the detractors have a point. Every single day of those five, I never stopped feeling bad for people for whom extreme poverty is not a temporary state of affairs but an indefinite, day-in-day-out reality. As hard as it was for me to find enough food, I still had the luxury of enjoying other things around me: I was working; when it was cold, I had enough clothes to keep warm; and I had a nice place to stay. Heck, I was even travelling back and forth to the office in a train. That's nowhere near real poverty.

That's the point that Dominique Mishio wants to drive home. Mishio, head of Canada's Global Poverty Project, which is leading the Live Below the Line campaign, said the challenge is not about making participants feel the real misery of living in extreme poverty but about reflecting on poverty issues, increasing awareness and raising funds for the many organizations that work to alleviate poverty in different parts of the world.

Hundreds of Canadians have taken the challenge every year since 2013, and many are sure to take it again starting today, the 2015 challenge's official launch date. You might be wondering, after reading all this, whether it's worth giving it a try yourself. Yes, over the course of the five-day challenge you may well feel some of the ambivalence that I went through, and, yes, you may field some of the same doubts and objections that I heard.

But your personal effort, when added to that of thousands more across the globe, will have practical impact.

The campaign has raised over $250,000 over the past two years, and the money goes to fund fighting poverty in poor countries. Your donation will go toward efforts that could concretely improve — and perhaps even save — lives. Maybe a poor kid somewhere will be able to go to school. Maybe a hospital in a remote village will receive medical supplies. Maybe starving children in a refugee camp will get some nutritious food.

Taking the challenge of eating on less than two dollars a day created an image of poverty in me that will haunt me for a long time. It's one thing to read numbers and reports on poverty issues; it's quite another to live through the pain that those numbers attest to — even for a short while and even according to arbitrary conditions.

Over a billion people live in extreme poverty. That's an alarming number, but I bet hardly anyone among the rich world is losing sleep over it. Which is very sad.

No, I didn't have to go through this kind of experiment. But I am glad I did. It served as an eye opener and changed my perspective on the choices I make every day. And I will donate what I can afford in order to help. You? You don't have to eat on $1.75 a day, but you can help fight poverty and make it history.

LIVING BELOW THE LINE

The reporter: Gilbert Ngabo works for Metro in Toronto. He moved to Canada from Rwanda five years ago.

The mission: To live on just $1.75 a day for five days — a challenge made to all Canadians by the Global Poverty Project, which says that's the daily budget of those who live below the poverty line.

The series: Day 5 of 5, reflecting on the meaning and purpose of the challenge

Follow Gilbert Ngabo on Twitter @dugilbo or at metronews.ca.

CAMPAIGN

Some of the organizations partnering with Live Below the Line campaign to raise awareness and funds to fight poverty:

- Crossroads International
- Oxfam Canada
- Raising the Village
- Canada Africa Community Health Alliance
- Canadian Hunger Foundation
- Make Poverty History – Canada
- Souls of the Feet
- ONEXONE
- Results Canada
- Tin Roof Global

TRAGEDY BOY DIES IN FALL FROM 17TH FLOOR

Toronto Police say a three-year-old boy has died from injuries he suffered after falling from a 17th-floor apartment in the city's west-end. Paramedics responded to a call Sunday afternoon. Emergency crews took the boy to a local hospital with critical injuries. Paramedics say the preschooler was in "grave condition" upon being transported from the scene. Police say the boy died of his injuries upon arrival at the hospital. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Toronto transit riders were left out in the cold, and destined to deal with more crowded trains and streetcars, in the 2015 Ontario budget, critics say. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE PHOTO

Group slams lack of TTC cash

TRANSIT

Riders getting 'raw deal' with 2015 budget: advocates

Jessica Smith Cross
Metro | Toronto

Premier Kathleen Wynne will have company on her Monday morning commute to work. If she wants it, that is.

Members of the TTCriders advocacy group will be at her home station — Eglinton on the Yonge line — to protest the lack of money dedicated to the TTC in the 2105 Ontario budget.

"We're going to say, 'Hey, Kathleen Wynne, you should do the right thing for Toronto riders,'" said TTCriders executive director Jessica Bell.

The group has been encouraging all politicians to ride the TTC to work for a week in April so that they learn how crowded it is for riders.

Bell said the 2015 budget leaves Toronto projects out altogether, directing funding instead to 905 communities.

"We think TTC riders are getting a raw deal," Bell said. "We think there should be more funding for subways, streetcars and buses."

Bell said the province should be supporting the TTC's operating costs at the same level as the city and funding new capital projects.

Coun. Gord Perks agrees.

"The budget continues the expansion of GO Transit, which is interregional, and that's a good thing," he said.

"But in terms of local transit in Toronto there's nothing there at all."

TTC chairman Josh Colle wasn't as harsh in his response. Colle said he's "pleased" about the province's commitment to improve GO regional rail lines that feed into Toronto.

That funding is going toward electrifying GO rail lines around Toronto and moving to all-day, two-way service every 15 minutes.

Colle said he is meeting Transportation Minister Steven Del Duca this week, and promised a continued push "for more operating dollars."

The list of needs, he noted, is "long and extensive," including the next wave of the Big Move projects — which include the relief line and the Yonge subway extension.

"The TTC is becoming unreliable and the solution is for the province to provide fair funding, and this year they didn't."
Jessica Bell, executive director TTCriders

"This will be one of the largest infrastructure investments in Canada since ... completing the Canadian Pacific Railway in 1885."
Charles Sousa, In his budget speech

"Our ability to deliver transit is in peril. This budget does nothing to help with that problem."
Coun. Gord Perks

"I'm certainly pleased there were a lot of infrastructure dollars committed to projects in Toronto."
Josh Colle, TTC chairman

OTRHER

GO gets $13.5 billion, LRTs also get plenty of cash

- $13.5 billion for GO Transit's regional express rail expansion, bringing all-day service between Union Station and Oshawa, Burlington, Unionville, Bramalea and Aurora. This expansion forms the basis for SmartTrack, which is yet to be funded.
- $1.6 billion for a Hurontario-Main LRT linking Mississauga and Brampton.
- Money for the LRTs on Finch and Sheppard in Toronto, at about $1 billion each, and a commitment to start the procurement process for the Finch West LRT project later this year.
- The budget mentions both the Relief Line and the Yonge North Subway Extension are mentioned, but with no funding attached.

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One Zone Wi-Fi Internet access a lost opportunity: Clement

TECHNOLOGY

Ex-Toronto Hydro boss says society needs online access

Andrew Clement gets nostalgic when he checks his phone for Wi-Fi networks in Toronto and sees one named "ONE ZONE_ HIGH SPEED INTERNET."

"It's a reminder of what could have been," the University of Toronto professor says.

Started in 2006, One Zone was the brainchild of David Dobbin, then-president of Toronto Hydro Telecom. Using the utility's 450 kilometres of existing fibre optic Internet cables, One Zone was supposed to bring affordable — possibly even free — wireless access to one million households and 80,000 businesses across Toronto.

It only made it six square kilometres.

The first phase of the project rolled Wi-Fi coverage out across downtown Toronto. It was free for six months before transitioning to a subscription model.

"It was a very good system, based on what I read in the engineering reports," said Clement, who authored a report on One Zone in 2008. "At the time, the service it was offering was very robust."

Despite its strong signal, the service never fully caught on. Meanwhile, mired in a budget crunch, the city sold Toronto Hydro Telecom to Cogeco for $200 million.

"They sold off a diamond in the rough for a song," laments Clement.

Clement believes the city was pressured by big companies to move away from One Zone and telecom as a whole. Companies which were getting ready to launch their own wireless services and didn't want to compete with a public provider.

"Rumour has it that the telecoms, faced with such a direct challenge to their business model, threatened to make life difficult for the city," Clement said.

> **It's a tragic, sad story of vision and possibility being undermined at various levels.**
> Andrew Clement, University of Toronto professor

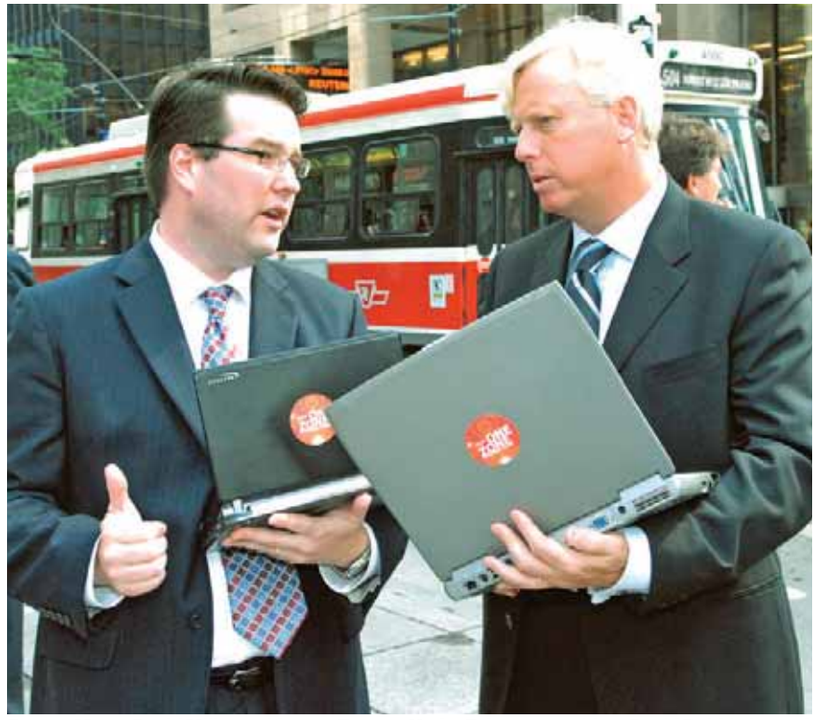
In Canada, Rogers was one of the most vocal opponents of city-built Wi-Fi networks, at the time. In the U.S., telecom companies took some cities to court, seeking injunctions against public Wi-Fi projects.

Although Cogeco continued to operate One Zone for a few years after the Toronto Hydro Telecom sale, the company told Metro it's in the process of decommissioning the few remaining Wi-Fi hotspots.

"The technology used to provide One Zone is limited and does not provide the quality of service required to best serve our clients. As such, Cogeco Data Services has opted to remove the service from its product portfolio," spokeswoman Shawna Abbott said in an email.

Clement believes One Zone was a lost opportunity to reframe wireless Internet as a public good rather than a commercial product.

"Internet access is something almost everybody needs to participate fully in society," he said. "And at this point, we could have had city-wide basic Internet access through Wi-Fi for only a few dollars a year on our tax bills." LUKE SIMCOE/METRO



Former Mayor David Miller and former Toronto Hydro Telecom president David Dobbin logged on to One Zone for the first time in September 2006. It was the first phase of what was supposed to be Canada's largest WiFi network, operated by the former Toronto Hydro Telecom. METRO FILE

ACCESS

Municipal Wi-Fi go-getters across Canada

While Toronto remains without Wi-Fi in the core, other Canadian cities proved leaders in the field — many, many years ago.

Calgary became the first city in Canada to offer a municipal Wi-Fi service in 2002. The service is a for-pay subscription model operated by WestNet Wireless Inc.

Fredericton, N.B., was the first city in Canada to offer free and open Wi-Fi to residents as part of its Fred-eZone program, launched in 2003.

Elsewhere, Jerusalem became the first fully Wi-Fi-enabled city in the world in 2004, followed closely by Mysore, India.

FOOD AND DRINK

Raising awareness, a glass to the 'original cocktail spirit'

Luke Simcoe
Metro | Toronto

Gin lovers across Toronto will be in high spirits this week.

The city's inaugural Gin-A-Palooza festival commences Wednesday.

Ten participating venues will be showcasing everything the juniper-flavoured liquor has to offer.

"Gin is really making a comeback," said Gin-A-Palooza organizer Dante Concepcion.

While the past few years have seen a boom in both craft beer and whiskey sales.

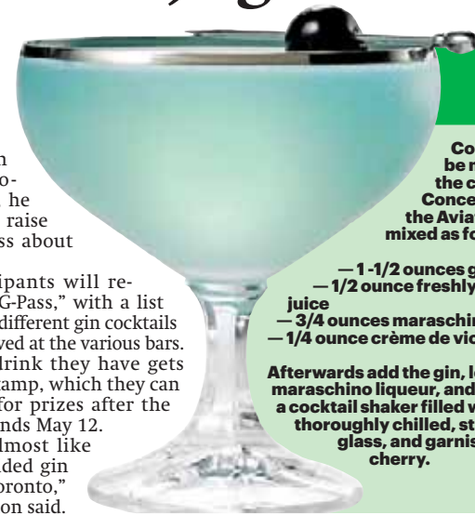
Concepcion said drinkers are rediscovering what he refers to as the "the original cocktail spirit."

The aim of Gin-A-Palooza is to build on that momentum, he said, and raise awareness about gin.

Participants will receive a "G-Pass," with a list of the 30 different gin cocktails being served at the various bars.

Each drink they have gets them a stamp, which they can redeem for prizes after the festival ends May 12.

"It's almost like a self-guided gin tour of Toronto," Concepcion said.



Gin Aviation

Countless cocktails can be made with gin, but for the curious drinker, Dante Concepcion recommends the Aviation. The drink can be mixed as follows:

— 1-1/2 ounces gin
— 1/2 ounce freshly squeezed lemon juice
— 3/4 ounces maraschino liqueur
— 1/4 ounce crème de violette (optional)

Afterwards add the gin, lemon juice, maraschino liqueur, and crème de violette to a cocktail shaker filled with ice. Shake until thoroughly chilled, strain into a coupe glass, and garnish with a maraschino cherry.

POPSUGAR.COM

Bar manager Brendan Schatti prepares a Plymouth Roadrunner cocktail Friday at Thoroughbred on Richmond Street West. The bar is one of 10 venues participating in this week's Gin-A-Palooza festival in Toronto. LUKE SIMCOE/METRO

Relief efforts tough task in Nepal

EARTHQUAKE

Aftershocks, bad weather could make things difficult

Providing relief for those affected by the earthquake in Nepal could be even more complicated and difficult than the humanitarian operation in Haiti, says a Canadian relief worker.

Alain Lapierre said the relief operation could be obstructed by rainy weather, aftershocks and damaged infrastructure, especially in regions outside of Kathmandu.

Further complicating everything is the lack of information and communication from earthquake struck towns and villages closer to the epicentre.

Lapierre, an emergency team leader for CARE Canada, arrived in Nepal Sunday just in time to experience a 6.8 magnitude aftershock at the airport. The devastation, destruction and suffering he has seen so far is overwhelming, he said.

Thousands of residents in Kathmandu, whose homes have been destroyed, are sleeping outside without any shelter, blankets or food, said Lapierre.

But Lapierre fears what is to be found outside the capital closer to the epicentre and throughout the Kathmandu Valley could be even worse.

Getting to these other earthquake struck regions in Nepal may also prove difficult if roads and highways have been destroyed, making the relief operation even more challenging than in Haiti, said Lapierre.

Children light candles on Saturday as the Toronto Nepalese community held a vigil following a devastating earthquake in Nepal, where more than 2,200 people were killed. DAVID COOPER/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

In Haiti access to earthquake-struck regions was relatively easy, Lapierre said. Because Haiti was relatively small, getting aid to people there quickly was less complicated than it will be in Nepal, he added.

"Accessibility is a big issue," he said. The only way to reach some of the more remote regions of Nepal is going to be by helicopter and that will take time, he said. "It's very complex and different from Haiti."

With more than 2,200 confirmed dead, Ottawa has announced that it will be providing $5 million for humanitarian organizations to provide assistance to meet the needs of people affected by the earthquake in Nepal.

Ottawa is also sending a military disaster assessment team, part of the Disaster Assistance Response Team — designed to deploy on short notice to deal with natural disasters or humanitarian emergencies — to Nepal.

> **This is a very hard time for Nepal, for the people of Nepal.**
> Santosh Sharma

Other Canadian and international humanitarian relief organizations, including members of Canada's Humanitarian Coalition, the Canadian Red Cross, GlobalMedic, ShelterBox Canada, World Vision and Médecins Sans Frontières/Doctors Without Borders, are on their way with aid.

MSF is sending four teams of medical and non-medical staff to Nepal to assist those affected by the Earthquake. MSF will also send 3,000 kits of non-food items and medical kits to Nepal.

GlobalMedic has sent rapid response teams to deliver water purification units for 1000 families and an unmanned aerial vehicle which will map the damaged regions and help identify closed roads and areas affected by landslides or severe structural damage.

International and national relief organizations in Kathmandu are all beginning to scale up their operations and supplies should be arriving within the next couple of days, Lapierre said.

Lapierre hopes by Monday more CARE staff will be on hand to help weary staff at CARE Nepal and their relief effort will begin in earnest. Blankets for warmth and tarpaulins for shelter are expected to arrive soon from India.

"This is a very hard time for Nepal, for the people of Nepal," said Santosh Sharma, a 50-year-old emergency response team member with CARE Nepal, to Torstar News Service.

"Our government has requested aid from other governments to provide relief support," he said. "So I'd like to request to people living in other parts of the world to extend their support to the people here in Nepal."

Homes in Sharma's neighborhood were totally destroyed, many crumbling to the ground. Two of his neighbours were injured, he said.

"Their houses completely collapsed," Sharma said. "They had bad wounds and were bleeding. We took them to the nearest health centre where they got first aid."

People are "terrified," he said. Many have slept outdoors fearful of aftershocks. "They've spent the whole night under the sky in the open."

And now conditions in Kathmandu are quickly deteriorating because of heavy rains. And the forecast for the next two days calls for even more rain, he said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Joe Sallai, 45, panhandles on the corner of College and Yonge on March 20.

AARON VINCENT ELKAIM/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mean streets claim lives

HOMELESSNESS

Violence seldom reported but all too frequent without shelter

Tyler Dunlop says his moment of terror came after he passed out in the back parking lot of a building in Edson, Alta.

The 30-year-old homeless man says he awoke to the sound of taunts as he was being punched and kicked by four intoxicated youths.

"They ganged up on me and beat me within an inch of my life," he said of the beating in 2011, which he didn't report to police.

Dunlop's violent encounter offers a glimpse at the dangers faced by people living on the streets.

On Tuesday, two men in Nova Scotia will be sentenced after they pleaded guilty to second-degree murder in the slaying of Harley Lawrence, a 62-year-old homeless man set on fire as he slept in a bus shelter in Berwick northwest of Halifax.

Daniel Wayne Surette, 27, and Kyle David James Fredericks, 26, admitted in an agreed statement of facts that they doused Lawrence in $10 worth of gas before setting him on fire in October 2013.

Statistics Canada does not track murders, assaults and sexual assaults committed against homeless people, but people who live on the street and their advocates say they happen frequently.

In downtown Toronto, Joe Sallai says he's lived on the streets since he was 16 and has been kicked, hit and spat on. He has seen people hurl bricks at other panhandlers.

"I've seen them get pulled by their hair and stuff just because they were panning," he says. "Somebody wanted to be ignorant and walk by and do it. I've seen it happen quite a few times."

Life descends into a constant state of wariness, Sallai says.

"If not, they'll just catch you off guard and that'd be it."

Stephen Gaetz, director of the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness at York University in Toronto, says alarm bells should be going off for policy-makers and police after a municipal study in Waterloo last fall.

Of 281 people surveyed, 41 per cent of them said they were a victim of a violent attack since becoming homeless. Some of the violence involved homeless people beating each other up, he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

WINNIPEG

Police warn city's homeless

Winnipeg's homeless and vulnerable community are being alerted after police say at least one suspect "brutally killed" two men within the span of four hours over the weekend, and they aren't ruling out a third.

Sgt. John O'Donovan of the Winnipeg Police Service's Homicide Unit said both men, the first man in his late 40s and the second late 60s, died in back lanes about a block from each other in downtown Winnipeg.

"Both are victims from (the) vulnerable persons community," said Sgt. O'Donovan. "They're vulnerable in the way that they suffer from mental (illness) and substance abuse."

Sgt. O'Donovan said they were both killed between 9 p.m. Friday and 1 a.m. Saturday. He would not say how they died, but did release a picture of a man he said was in the area at the time and may have valuable information. Police have not called the man a suspect, only a person of interest.

Sgt. O'Donovan said police were also not ruling out the possibility the beating death of a man in a bus shelter on Main Street earlier this month was similarly linked.

A local homeless woman, who asked to be identified only as 'Red', said news of the violence didn't surprise her.

"You're always worried something will happen to you or your friends out here," she said.

"The cops, they don't do nothing to help you, so we stick together."

Police said they are visiting local shelters to hand out information and warn the vulnerable population to stay away from secluded areas.

METRO WINNIPEG

Tories strategize for Quebec seats

POLITICS

Party support increasing in the province

When a popular Quebec mayor recently announced he was running for the federal Conservatives in this fall's election, the gathering included 20 of the region's 23 mayors.

That, said Alain Rayes, shows it's becoming less taboo in certain parts of Quebec to be publicly aligned with Stephen Harper's Tories.

"They took the risk of being seen next to (a Conservative) candidate," said Rayes, who has been mayor of Victoriaville since 2009.

The central Quebec town is about 150 kilometres east of Montreal and is in a riding won by the Bloc Québécois in 2011.

Support for the Tories is increasing in other historically small-c conservative parts of the province according to recent polls that indicate the party could outstrip by far its 2011 Quebec seat count of five. Rayes said the rise in Conservative fortunes in the province is evidence Quebecers "want a seat at the table."

Gerard Deltell, a well-known provincial politician and another Tory recruit, said the spike in support for the Conservatives is due to Harper's tax cuts — something Quebecers are not used to with provincial governments — and the party's performance on the economy and security.

"The Conservatives can recruit those guys who are the grassroots candidates — those who are deep in the community" said Deltell, who recently left his job as a member of the legislature for the right-leaning Coalition for Quebec's Future (Coalition Avenir Quebec).

Before Lebel's 2014 summer tour, the Conservatives were polling roughly at 12 per cent in Quebec. Now, poll aggregator website ThreeHundredEight.com puts the Tories at about 21 per cent and indicates the party could win more than 20 seats.

The Tories currently have five Quebec MPs, including four cabinet ministers.

Harper's best tally in Quebec was at the 2006 and 2008 elections when he won 10 seats both times. The Conservatives were shut out of the province in 2004 when Paul Martin's Liberals won a minority. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Coalition Avenir Quebec (translated as: Coalition for Quebec's future) MNA Gerard Deltell, a well-known provincial politician, announced on April 7 that he's quitting the CAQ and joining the Conservative Party of Canada for the upcoming federal election. JACQUES BOISSINOT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

COURT

Tim Hortons co-founder accused of sexual assault

The billionaire co-founder of Tim Hortons, Ron Joyce, is on the receiving end of a civil suit alleging he sexually assaulted his sometime-lover four years ago.

In 2011, according to court documents, the woman, now 34, spent the night at Joyce's home in Burlington, Ont., so she could drive him to a doctor's appointment in Barrie, Ont., the following day. They went to bed separately and she slept alone in the guest-room, the documents say.

"At 6 a.m., she awoke to find (Joyce) in her bed naked with his hands down her pyjama bottoms with his fingers inserted into her vagina," her unproven claim states. "(She) screamed repeatedly for the defendant to get off of her." THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Aftershocks terrify survivors

CRISIS

'We don't feel safe at all,' says Nepalese man

Shell-shocked and sleeping in the streets, tens of thousands of Nepalese braced against terrifying aftershocks Sunday while digging for survivors in the devastation wrought a day earlier by a massive earthquake that ripped across this Himalayan nation and killed more than 2,500 people.

Acrid, white smoke rose above the nation's most revered Hindu temple, where dozens of bodies were being cremated at any given time.

Aid groups received the first word from remote mountain villages — reports that suggested many communities perched on mountainsides were devastated or struggling to cope.

Landslides hindered rescue teams that tried to use mountain trails to reach those in need, said Prakash Subedi, chief district official in the Gorkha region, where the quake was centred.

"Villages like this are routinely affected by landslides, and it's not uncommon for entire villages of 200, 300, up to 1,000 people to be completely buried by rock falls," said Matt Darvas, a member of the aid group World Vision. "It will likely be helicopter access only."

Saturday's magnitude-7.8 earthquake spread horror from Kathmandu to small villages and to the slopes of Mount Everest, triggering an avalanche that buried part of the base camp packed with foreign climbers. At least 18 people died there and 61 were injured.

With people fearing more quakes, tens of thousands spent the day crowding in the streets and the night sleeping in parks or on a golf course.

Crows screeched as the ground shook with the worst of the aftershocks — magnitude-6.7.

"We don't feel safe at all. There have been so many aftershocks. It doesn't stop," said Rajendra Dhungana, 34, who spent the day with his niece's family for her cremation at the Pashuputi Nath Temple in Kathmandu. "I've watched hundreds of bodies burn. … Nepal should learn a lesson from this. They should realize proper buildings should be built."

By late Sunday, the aftershocks appeared to be weakening. A magnitude-5.3 quake shook an area about 30 miles east of Kathmandu. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nepalese rest inside a van where they have taken shelter as it is considered safer in cars than inside houses due to repeated aftershocks in Kathmandu, Nepal, on Sunday.
BIKRAM RAI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CASUALTIES

Nepal authorities said Sunday that at least 2,430 people died in that country alone, not including the 18 dead in the Mount Everest avalanche. Another 61 people died from the quake in India and a few in other neighbouring countries.

At least 1,152 people died in Kathmandu, and the number of injured nationwide was upward of 5,900. Three policemen died during a rescue effort in Kathmandu, a police spokesman said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AID EFFORTS

Global response gears up

There is still time to save lives — that's why governments and aid agencies Sunday rushed doctors, volunteers and equipment to Nepal without waiting for the dust to settle.

UN spokeswoman Orla Fagan, who is heading to Nepal, said preventing the spread of disease is one of the most important tasks facing aid workers who are arriving.

"There are 14 international medical teams on the way and either 14 or 15 international search-and-rescue teams on the way," she said. "They need to get in as soon as possible."

Substantial hurdles remain, but there were hopeful signs as Kathmandu's international airport reopened after Saturday's crushing earthquake, and some aid vehicles were able to travel overland from Indian to the stricken Nepalese city of Pokhara.

"That means supplies could potentially come in overland from India. That is a positive sign," said Ben Pickering, Save the Children's humanitarian adviser in Britain. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Avalanche devastates Mt. Everest base camp

MORE DETAILS

What happened?
U.S. Geological Survey seismologist Paul Earle said the quake happened on what is known as a "thrust fault." That describes the situation when one piece of the Earth's crust is moving beneath another piece.

In this case, it's the Indian plate that is moving north at 45 millimetres a year under the Eurasian plate to the north, Earle said.

Aid efforts:
With Kathmandu's airport reopened Sunday, the first aid flights began delivering supplies.

The first to respond were Nepal's neighbours India, China and Pakistan. Indian air-force planes landed with 43 tons of relief material, including tents and food, and nearly 200 rescuers, India's External Affairs Ministry spokesman Vikas Swarup said.

Nepal's struggles:
Nepal is a relatively poor country without extensive resources despite its rich cultural heritage and spectacular mountain scenery. It has been plagued by instability in recent years.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EVACUATION

Survivors say dozens almost certainly dead

Mountaineers, guides and porters streamed from Mount Everest base camp on Sunday in the wake of a deadly earthquake-triggered avalanche that obliterated parts of the rocky village of nylon tents. Some warned that dozens of people may still be missing.

The worst injured were ferried out in helicopters, while those remaining at base camp endured a series of powerful aftershocks, some of which caused smaller but still terrifying avalanches in the surrounding mountains.

The avalanche on Saturday, set off by the massive earthquake that struck Nepal, left at least 18 people dead and dozens more injured.

But as the first stunned survivors of the avalanche reached Kathmandu, Nepal's capital, they said that dozens of people may still be missing and were almost certainly dead.

Injured Sherpa guides sit inside a bus after they were evacuated from Mount Everest Base Camp, in Kathmandu, Nepal, on Sunday. BIKRAM RAI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"The snow swept away many tents and people," said Gyelu Sherpa, a guide among the first group of 15 injured survivors to reach Kathmandu.

The 15, most of them Sherpa guides or support staff working on Everest, flew from Lukla, a small airstrip not far from Everest. None were believed to be facing life-threatening injuries.

Bhim Bahadur Khatri, 35, a cook and a Sherpa, was preparing food in a meal tent when the avalanche struck.

"We all rushed out to the open, and the next moment a huge wall of snow just piled on me," he said. "I managed to dig out of what could easily have been my grave. I wiggled and used my hands as claws to dig as much as I could. I was suffocating; I could not breathe."

When he finally dug his way out, he was surrounded by devastation. Part of the base camp village was gone.

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metro VIEWS
Your essential daily news
Monday, April 27, 2015

#MYMETRO

Heather Gautreau, 45, Halifax, N.S.

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I'm on my lunch. I work down at George Street at the Bank of Montreal.
Tell me about your commuter routine.
About a half-hour. I take the bus or ferry over from Dartmouth.
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It may be clear to Tory, but budgets mystify me

TORY'S TORONTO
Matt Elliott

After a week in which both the federal and provincial governments unveiled their 2015 budgets, Toronto Mayor John Tory seemed to be in a pretty good mood.

"What's clear is that Toronto has partners at both the federal and provincial level to get transit built in this city," Tory said in a statement Thursday.

Maybe the mayor and I have different ideas about what the word "clear" means, but, after a close read of both budgets, I don't get it.

The federal government, making no specific reference to Tory's SmartTrack transit plan, used their budget to talk up their commitment to transit investment but failed to put their money where their mouth is.

The Conservative government does plan to spend a billion dollars a year on transit, but not this year — they just wanted to let us know they plan to get to it, you know, eventually.

The federal plan to invest new money in transit doesn't start until 2017, a year that will see just $250 million invested in public transit nationally. The billion dollars promised to transit won't start flowing until 2019 — a date that notably falls after the next municipal election.

The provincial Liberal government, on the other hand, does mention SmartTrack in their budget, but in the context of their plan to electrify GO Transit corridors and provide frequent, all-day service.

Tory was quick to point out this kind of investment in GO service will provide the foundation for his SmartTrack plan. That's true, but it's also true that the provincial government committed to making these kinds of enhancements a year ago, long before Tory was elected.

All Toronto got was reiteration of past promises and new delays for transit funding

In other words, it was something that was probably going to happen anyway.

Then there's the matter of the cost — the giant, unfunded cost. The budget document specifically notes that building SmartTrack will require another $5.2 billion — money that will need to come from the federal and municipal governments.

But, whoops, we already know the federal government doesn't intend to invest new dollars in transit until 2017 at the earliest. Which leaves Tory staring at a giant fiscal hole in the signature transit plan he pledged to deliver by 2021.

With that kind of pressure facing him, I don't see good reason for Tory to be celebrating these budgets.

Yes, they could have been worse. Both budgets acknowledge transit and cities as important. And there are no snide references to spoiled Toronto or drawings of the CN Tower with stink lines coming off of it.

But still, I'm disappointed — and I find it odd that Tory isn't. On transit, all Toronto really got last week was delayed promises and the reiteration of things already said.

Is that really what the mayor thinks success looks like?

Matt Elliott lives and writes in Toronto. Follow him on Twitter @GraphicMatt

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

Brutal honesty is the best policy if we want to nurture our artists

There's something awry in the way we treats artists in Canada.

It's not that we're too stingy with our love — it's that we're disingenuous.

Yes, we have some great critics (John Doyle for one), and it's culturally OK to hate Nickleback.

But most mainstream media coverage of writers, musicians, painters, sculptors or filmmakers tells me only two things: where that person was born; and why they, and their work, are wonderful.

It would be fine if that were always the truth. But it's not. Art criticism, according to Toronto writer and curator Amy Fung, is mostly "advertorial fluff."

Calling that approach "a PR department's job," not journalism's, Michael Lista has joined with fellow journalist Jason Guriel to launch Partisan, an online magazine of "trenchant" art and culture reviews intended as a tonic for the limp discussions we usually see in this country.

Guriel, in a 2013 interview, told how a major national newspaper pulled a review of Margaret Atwood's poetry simply because it was tough. Poets (which both men are) in particular are treated like the "asthmatic kids on the playground," Lista told me.

Culture journalists don't lack opinions, he argued, they're just saying them in private. That saves them from professional blowback and potential fallout with the subjects of their critiques, a concern when the arts scene in this country, to quote a friend, is a "sock drawer."

"It's so small, it gets so intermingled, that you don't want to burn any bridges," said the friend, a musician who's toured with some of Canada's trendiest bands.

There's also the "whole CRTC-sponsored Cancon thing," Lista said, "where any Canadian culture needs to be nurtured like a delicate little flame."

That was certainly true of Jian Ghomeshi, celebrated for his gushing, grovelling interviews which put every Q guest on a pedestal regardless of merit. Ironic, given that his most famous interview (with Billy Bob Thornton) featured a rare bit of controversy.

Canadian media tends to celebrate any whiff of Canadian success, equating it with talent.

I wondered whether Shad would break rank during his first week as host of Q. But I doubt it — it's his niceness that stood out.

That leaves the rest of us with middling, condescending public debate, and Canadian artists denied the benefits of sharp, smart criticism.

The best thing an artist can hear isn't pat compliments. It's honesty.

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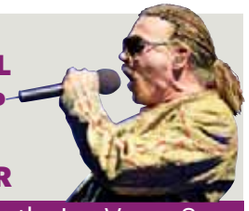


Your essential daily news

Guns N' Roses is on hiatus according to the Las Vegas Sun.

Bruce Jenner hailed for 'bravery'

ABC INTERVIEW

Reaction pours in as reality TV star comes out as transgender

U.S. Olympic champion turned reality TV star Bruce Jenner won praise over the weekend from celebrities and activists for revealing he is transitioning from male to female, ending long-running speculation he identifies as a woman.

In a highly anticipated, two-hour television interview aired Friday — hailed by transgender rights' campaigners and his own Kardashian-linked family — the 65-year-old said he had wrestled with his sexual identity since he was a kid.

"I've always been confused about my gender identity since I was this big," he told ABC's celebrity interviewer Diane Sawyer.

"Here I am, stuck — and I hate the word — (a) girl stuck in a guy's body.... As of now I have all the male parts and all that kind of stuff."

But asked point blank if he was a woman, Jenner said: "Yes. For all intents and purposes, I'm a woman."

Speculation that the actor, race-car enthusiast and 1976 Montreal Summer Olympics decathlon gold medallist was undergoing a sex change has been rich fodder for supermarket tabloids for months.

Jenner said he identifies himself as "her," but not by a specific name. The ABC interviewer used "he" and "him" throughout, without causing any apparent discomfort for the former Olympian.

He stressed the difference between gender identity and sexuality.

"I am not gay," Jenner said. "I am, as far as I know, heterosexual. I've always been with a woman, raising kids."

Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) rights group GLAAD welcomed Jenner's announcement.

"Though Jenner's journey is one that is deeply personal, it is also one that will impact and inspire countless people around the world," GLAAD head Sarah Kate Ellis said.

GLAAD also noted that media at this time should continue to refer to Jenner by his current name and with male pronouns to be respectful of his wishes, as he has not requested that a new name or pronoun be used.

Thrice-married Jenner became an American sports hero when he set a world record with his Montreal decathlon victory.

He again became a household name through his marriage to the former Kris Kardashian and the TV series Keeping Up with the Kardashians, in which he appeared as the sometimes bemused stepfather of her daughters Kourtney, Kim and Khloé. The couple, who have two daughters of their own, obtained a divorce in December.

National Center for Transgender Equality advocacy group executive director Mara Keisling called Jenner's declaration "one of the most profound displays of bravery and courage I've seen."

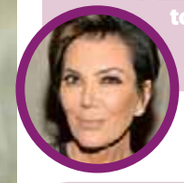
Jenner, clearly relieved to have finally come clean, said: "I'm saying goodbye to people's perceptions of me and who I am.

"I'm not saying goodbye to me because this has always been me." AFP

In a two-hour interview aired Friday, Bruce Jenner told ABC's Diane Sawyer that he is transitioning from male to female. HANDOUT

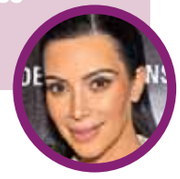
972,000

Nielsen Social estimated that there were 972,000 tweets sent on Friday night alone about the Jenner interview.



"Not only was I able to call him my husband for 25 years and father of my children, I am now able to call him my hero."

Kris Jenner



"Love is the courage to live the truest, best version of yourself. Bruce is love. I love you Bruce."

Kim Kardashian

"Bruzer, I'm soooo proud of you! Dads really are heros."

Khloé Kardashian

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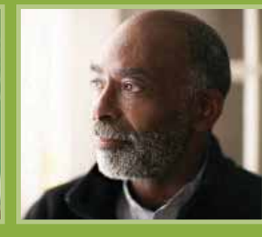

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Are you still trying to keep up with the Joneses?

FINANCES

Stop looking at what others have and focus on yourself

MONEY MATTERS
Gail Vaz-Oxlade
gailvazoxlade.com

Do you find yourself thinking about what your sister has that you don't? Or what kind of car your friend drives that you can't afford? Or how "unfair" it is that your neighbours travel every year when you haven't been able to scrounge up the money for the trip you've been promising yourself?

Remember the saying, "Keeping up with the Joneses"? It was used to denote our desire to keep pace with the spending of our neighbours. It was beautifully captured in a cartoon I once saw. A husband and wife are gardening together. The wife looks up to see a neighbour pulling into her driveway and says to her husband, "Damn, Shelly and Mike got a new car. And we were almost debt free!"

A lot of people create this problem for themselves. They imagine that others' lives are so much better and then they look for evidence to support their supposition. Ten years ago, before the avalanche of reality TV hit the airwaves, the Joneses were the people next door. Now people are feeling the push to keep up with the likes of movie stars and TV personalities who make gobs of money airing their lives to the nation and shopping as a hobby.

People who watch a lot of TV, read flashy magazines and walk the malls feel like they're always missing something because they have come to believe that "everyone else has one so I want one, too."

But if everyone else is going into debt to have the lifestyle you crave, then what you're craving isn't real; it's smoke and mirrors. Playing the keeping-up-with-the-Joneses game is stupid at the best of times, but it's suicidal if you're doing it on credit.

Just look at the size of the houses we're living in now compared to those in which our parents were raised. Back then people were having more kids but living in houses far smaller than we're willing to settle for today.

And only the rich and famous could afford granite counters and marble floors. Now we want a room for every child, plus a living room, family room, media room, and kids' playroom. As our expectations have gone up, our ability to pay has been seriously challenged. While we like to castigate the younger generation "giving into peer pressure," it's not just a problem of youth and immaturity. Age has little to do with it. Do you worry about being judged by others? Do you spend more time on impressing others than on managing your money?

The big joke, of course, is that while you're busy envying Jane, Jane's probably envying Michael, who in turn is envying you. Yup, it's human nature to think that what other people have is better.

That's "the grass is greener" syndrome. But if you can change what you're thinking about — stop focusing on the other and focus instead on yourself — you can change the feelings.

When you see people who seem to satisfy their every whim, don't even attempt to keep up. If you're wondering how they paid for it all, they very well may not have.

Instead they've made their purchases on credit cards where only the minimum payment is made, they've financed with lines of credit, and they've consolidated their consumer debt to a mortgage yet one more time. It's easy to spot the stuff people buy; the debt they're dragging along usually can't be seen.

The next time envy niggles at you and the thought, "I wish I could, too," goes through your head, think about what else you don't have, along with the new and shiny: the debt. If you're smart enough to know what's really important, if you are clear about your values and make your purchases based on what's important to you, you've got no dirty little secrets to hide. You're living in the light. And it feels good, doesn't it?

"While you're busy envying Jane, Jane's probably envying Michael, who in turn is envying you."

STRATEGY

Avoid confab fatigue with these meeting tips

OFFICE RELATIONS
Eleni Deacon

Long meetings. Pointless meetings. Boring meetings. Meetings that are actually lectures. Meetings that take you away from your desk for hours of abstract chit-chat when you have a scroll-length to-do list you could be tackling.

Sound familiar?

While group communication is an essential component of effective business, many employees complain that their most lethal productivity killer isn't social media or noisy colleagues — it's meetings.

Or rather, meeting after meeting after meeting.

There's a simple way managers can take the weight off meeting overload: Schedule fewer of them.

Meetings should be a time to share updates, get on the same page, and develop actionable strategies.

They should not be a time for long-winded speeches or circular bickering.

Before scheduling a meeting, ask: Why are we doing this and does it require group attendance?

If the answer is vague, hit X on your invite. In many cases, it can be more efficient to contact one person for a direct project update than mobilize an entire team for a not-entirely-necessary gathering.

Another approach is to trade all-staff affairs for speedy, targeted powwows.

While certain types of meetings — strategic planning, client consultations — may require a more substantive time commitment, just-another-day status reports should not dismantle your afternoon.

Try cutting the time you book for meetings in half — you may find you get the same amount done.

Stand-up meetings are also a fail-proof — if intentionally uncomfortable — way to keep meetings from falling flat.

The concept is self-explanatory: These chats are chair-free.

Instead, team members must deliver their debriefs while standing on two feet. Not only does this make it difficult to tune out — it also means everyone wants to finish the process as quickly as possible.

"Under no circumstances book a meeting to figure out a time to have another meeting about how to have better meetings"

Regardless of the length or frequency of your meet-ups, they should be deliberately planned and efficiently run.

Set an agenda, and delegate one individual to moderate the action. A lot of the frustration surrounding meetings comes not only from the fact of having to be there, but also from the digressive and disorganized way that they're managed.

Commit to a time frame and keep the discussion on point — this will keep attendees from getting annoyed.

While meetings are obligatory, time-wasting meetings are not.

To curb confab fatigue, set meetings that have clear objectives and on-task leadership. And under no circumstances book a meeting to figure out a time to have another meeting about how to have better meetings.

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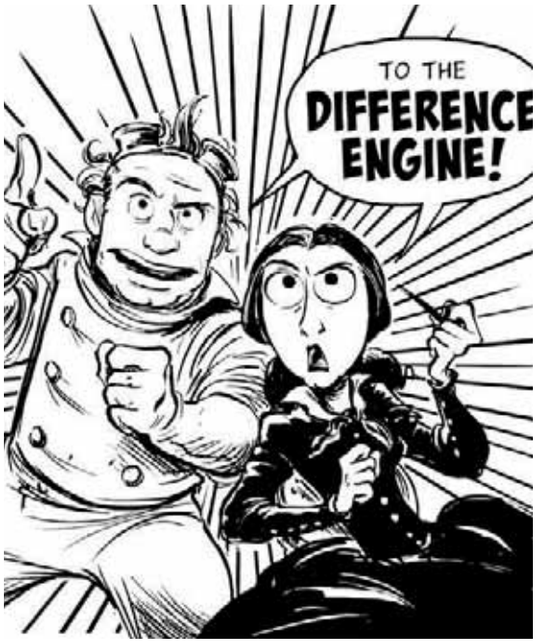

MIND THE APP

Kris Abel
@RealKrisAbel

EBOOKS

The Thrilling Adventures of Lovelace and Babbage

• Kindle/iBooks/Kobo
• Sydney Padua
There are lessons and laughs in this graphic novel account of the first computer in which Victorian inventor Babbage and pioneering programmer Lovelace become crime-solving Steampunk detectives. Both characters are wild, eccentric fun, but their in-jokes require footnotes that might only be insightful to history buffs and computer geeks.

GAMING

State of Decay: Year One Survival Edition

• Xbox One
Death is permanent in this zombie apocalypse, meaning that when you die, you must follow someone's else life story going forward. It's jarring at first, but part of a large world of compelling tasks where you make plans against the zombies by exploring, building, and forming communities.

APP

MediSafe

• Apple Watch/iPhone
Android
• Free
From your watch or from your phone, this app's notifications will help you remember which pills to take and at what times. You can use it to keep track of refills, sync your reminders with family members, and even add glucose, blood pressure, and temperature readings for a helpful overview.

APP

Epicurious Smart Timer

• Apple Watch/iPhone/iPad
• Free
A step-by-step cooking timer that works on both phone and watch, Epicurious' newest feature provides custom countdowns to match specific foods, vibrates to let you know when to flip a steak, and finishes with thumbnails photos that show how your ingredients should look when they're done.

GAMING

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Hologram Hawking's One Direction theory

DON'T WORRY, TEEN GIRLS

In another universe, Zayne could still be in 1D: Hawking

Ned Ehrbar

Stephen Hawking. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

If you had the chance to ask Stephen Hawking just one question, obviously it would be about One Direction, right? The famed physicist was appearing — via 3D hologram, because he's awesome — at the Sydney Opera House to take a few questions recently, and one of those was, "What do you think is the cosmological effect of Zayn Malik leaving One Direction and consequently breaking the hearts of millions of teenage girls across the world?"

Now, before you go and get embarrassed on humanity's behalf, just know that Hawking was delighted. "Finally, a question about something important," he responded. "My advice to any heartbroken young girl is to pay close attention to the study of theoretical physics. Because one day there may well be proof of multiple universes. It would not be beyond the realms of possibility that somewhere outside of our own universe lies another, different universe. And in that universe, Zayn is still in One Direction." Um, guys? I think we just found a way to get kids interested in science again.

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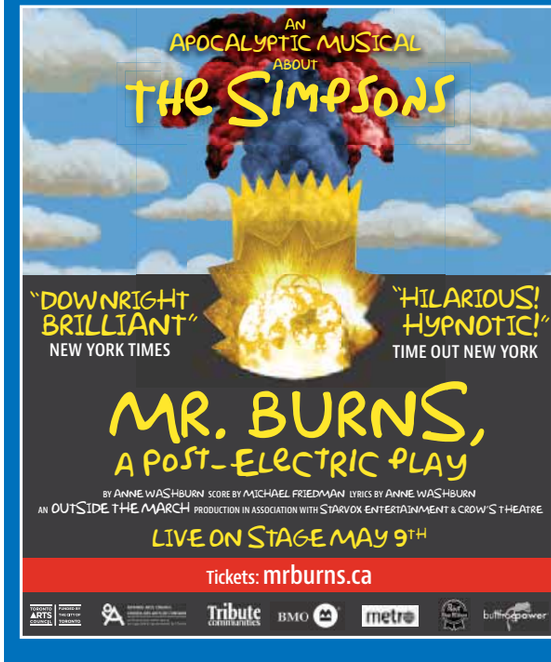
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THE DAILY SHOW

There will be tears, says Bee

After 12 years with the satirical nightly news show, the Toronto-born Samantha Bee makes her final appearance as The Daily Show's Most Senior Correspondent on Thursday.

"I have been really emotional since the news broke and all that stuff. So I'm going to be crying for sure," Bee says of how she'll handle her last taping.

"I went to the drugstore today and I literally bought waterproof mascara and waterproof eyeliner. Just to get through the next week."

Reached by phone recently in New York, Bee says Thursday's Daily Show episode will feature a "best-of" retrospective of her most memorable moments.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Samantha Bee.

metro SPORTS

Justin Rose won the Zurich Classic at a tournament-record 22 under

Monday, April 27, 2015

Raptors fans are escorted out of the Verizon Center in Washington during the second half of Sunday night's Game 4. The Raptors were swept out of the playoffs with the Wizards' blowout win.
ALEX BRANDON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

North nullified in Washington

Kyle Lowry reacts to a foul call against the Wizards on Sunday night in Washington.
GREG FIUME/GETTY IMAGES

NBA PLAYOFFS

Lowry loses cool, Raps have no answers in series with Wiz

Kyle Lowry and the Toronto Raptors were swept from the post-season after a 125-94 loss in Game 4 against the Washington Wizards on Sunday night.

Lowry's frustration from throughout the series boiled over in the first quarter.

He protested an early foul on Paul Pierce by firing the basketball to a referee as he walked off the court after a time out. Lowry earned a technical foul and moments later was on the bench with a third personal foul just six minutes 54 seconds into the game.

The meltdown encapsulated the series for Lowry and Toronto, who dropped the first-round series 4-0.

GAME 4 In Washington

WASHINGTON WIZARDS	RAPTORS
125	94

Thus ended a miserable week for Lowry, who battled back spasms, an illness and a leg injury. His shot was off. Foul trouble was a constant problem. The Raptors' most dynamic player, who started at guard for the Eastern Conference in this year's all-star game, was a shell of himself in the series.

In the end, Lowry shot 18-for-57 in the four games, though he had a team-high 21 points on Sunday and shot 8 for 15. His teammates did little to help in Game 4. The Raptors' defence was inconsistent, their offence sputtered and they couldn't rebound the shots they did miss.

The Wizards led 20-10 just 6:18 into the contest when Lowry was forced to the bench with that third foul. That lead grew to 20 midway through the second quarter. The Raptors had no answers.

Washington set a franchise post-season record by making 15 of its three-point shots. It had just five turnovers in the first half. The lead eventually reached 36. Lowry picked up his fourth foul at 6:16 of the third quarter with the Raptors down 79-61 and knocked over a chair on the Toronto bench in anger.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MORE SCORES

Clippers 114, Spurs 105

Chris Paul had 34 points and seven assists, Blake Griffin added 20 points and 19 rebounds, and Los Angeles beat San Antonio to even their first-round series at two games apiece.

J.J. Redick scored 17 points for the Clippers and Austin Rivers provided an unexpected boost off the bench with a post-season career-high 16 points.

Chris Paul
GETTY IMAGES

Cavaliers 101, Celtics 93

LeBron James scored 27 points and Cleveland overcame a shoulder injury to Kevin Love to complete a first-round sweep of Boston.

Love left the court in the first quarter with a dislocated left shoulder, and J.R. Smith was ejected for swinging his arm at Jae Crowder, but the Cavaliers held on to win a series for the first time since 2010.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Habs send Sens into summer

NHL PLAYOFFS

Ottawa offence runs dry in hard-fought Game 6 loss

Brendan Gallagher scored in the first period and Carey Price made 43 saves as the Montreal Canadiens defeated the Ottawa Senators 2-0 to advance to the second round of the NHL playoffs on Sunday night.

Montreal won the best-of-seven series 4-2, but lost two in a row after taking a 3-0 series lead.

"We knew it wouldn't be easy right from the start," said Canadiens defenceman P.K. Subban. "I liked the way we won. We had to work for it."

Max Pacioretty sealed the win with an empty-net goal with one second remaining.

"Advancing is such a great feeling but we have to be honest, we got some bounces tonight," said Pacioretty. "They poured it on us pretty good and Carey was a wall back there."

Price, nominated for the Vezina Trophy as the league's top goalie and perhaps a candidate for most valuable player honours, rebounded after allowing five goals in Game 5 with a masterful effort as Ottawa outshot the Canadiens 43-20.

Montreal, which reached the Eastern Conference final last spring, is in the second round for a second year in a row for the first time since 1992 and 1993.

After controlling the early going, the Canadiens got the first goal for the first time in the series when Gallagher took a high Greg Pateryn shot off his body and batted it past Craig Anderson at 13:26.

Montreal had the first six shots of the game but the Senators outshot them 16-3 in a dominant second in which they did everything but score.

The 20,500 fans at the Canadian Tire Centre were screaming for a too many men on the ice call against Montreal when perhaps a worse omission occurred as referee Chris Lee blew a quick whistle just before Jean-Gabriel Pageau put a puck in at 6:55 that had fallen past Price. THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN ST. PAUL

Wild on to face Chicago

Zach Parise scored twice, including a short-handed, highlight-reel goal to get Minnesota going in the first period, and the Wild advanced to the Western Conference semifinals with a 4-1 victory over the St. Louis Blues on Sunday in Game 6.

Justin Fontaine also scored, Nino Niederreiter added an empty-net goal and the Wild set up a rematch of their second-round loss last year to Chicago. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Canadiens' Max Pacioretty celebrates a goal scored by Brendan Gallagher, not shown, past Senators goalie Craig Anderson in Game 6 of their first-round playoff series on Sunday in Ottawa. JUSTIN TANG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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MLS

Toronto FC stamps out losing streak at four

Jozy Altidore scored two second-half goals and Toronto FC beat Orlando City 2-0 on Sunday to snap a four-game losing streak.

Toronto (2-4-0), playing in its sixth straight road game, scored the initial goal of a match for the first time this season.

Altidore played a quick free kick near midfield for a give-and-go with Sebastian Giovinco in the 50th minute and Altidore rounded a defender and rolled in a goal off the far post. Altidore added another in the 83rd after getting two Orlando players to bite on a shot fake and he left-footed in his fourth goal of the season.

Giovinco has a goal or an assist in five of the last six Toronto goals. His close-range shot in the 81st minute was defended well by goalkeeper Donovan Ricketts.

Toronto's goalkeeper, Joe Bendik, came out of his area in the seventh minute to challenge Brampton native Cyle Larin for a through ball, then quickly got to his feet to block Kevin Molino's rebound attempt. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PREMIER LEAGUE

Tie moves Chelsea step closer to title

With a tenacious defensive display, Chelsea held Arsenal to a 0-0 draw on Sunday to close in on its first Premier League title in five years.

Aside from penalty decisions not going Chelsea's way, the only thing that frustrated coach Jose Mourinho at the Emirates Stadium was the chant from Arsenal fans at the end: "Boring, boring Chelsea."

Chelsea is 10 points clear of defending champion Manchester City and Arsenal at the top of the standings with five games to go. And Mourinho was quick to remind Arsenal fans after the game that their team hasn't won the title since 2004. Chelsea has won the league three times since then, with the 2005 and 2006 titles coming in Mourinho's first reign.

"You support a club and you are waiting, waiting, waiting and for so many years without a Premier League title," Mourinho said. "I think that is very boring." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AWARD

Later Sunday, Chelsea's Eden Hazard picked up the player of the year award, voted on by his peers.

Chelsea striker Didier Drogba, right, vies with Arsenal's Per Mertesacker in London on Sunday. ADRIAN DENNIS/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Jays can't cope with Archer's accuracy

MLB

In-form Tampa pitcher hasn't given up earned run in four

Chris Archer pitched two-hit ball in seven scoreless innings and Brandon Guyer drove in four runs Sunday as the Tampa Bay Rays won their fifth straight, 5-1 over the Toronto Blue Jays.

Archer (3-2) became the first American League pitcher to go four starts within one season without giving up an earned run since Zach Greinke did it for Kansas City in 2009.

Archer gave up an unearned run in a 1-0 loss to Boston on Tuesday, but he has not given up an earned run since opening day, a span of 26-2/3 innings. His ERA is 0.84.

Evan Longoria had three straight hits and a walk for the Rays after going 4-for-4 on Saturday. Longoria's batting average rose from .218 to .306 in two games.

Guyer hit the second pitch from Mark Buehrle (3-1) for a home run, his first of the season. Logan Forsythe drove in another run for the Rays in the first inning with a double after Longoria's single.

Guyer made it 3-0 with a sacrifice fly in the fourth, then drove in two more runs with a two-out single off Buerhle in the sixth.

Matt Andriese pitched the final two innings for the Rays. Tim Beckham had two hits for Tampa Bay and scored twice.

Buehrle, who had been supported by 12 or more runs in each of his three preceding starts, gave up five runs on 13 hits in 5-2/3 innings.

The Blue Jays scored six runs in losing three straight at Tropicana Field, where they are 11-21 since 2012.

The struggling Jays will face Boston Monday night while Tampa plays its first game outside a dome Monday night at the New York Yankees.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jays' Dalton Pompey strikes out swinging with two men on base in the ninth against the Rays on Sunday in Florida. GETTY IMAGES

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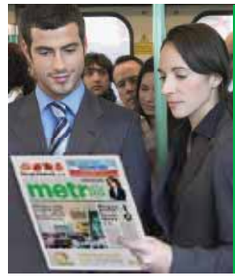
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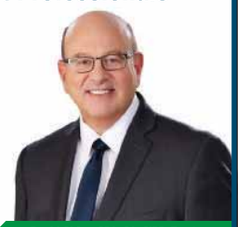
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RECIPE Mini Meatball Pizza

EAT LIGHT AT HOME

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Ready in
Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: 20 minutes

Ingredients
Serves 8
Meatballs
- 4 oz lean ground beef
- 2 Tbsp bread crumbs
- 1 Tbsp finely chopped green onions
- 1 Tbsp barbeque sauce
- 1 small egg
- ½ tsp minced garlic

- 1 – 12" whole wheat thin pizza crust
- ½ cup tomato sauce
- 3 oz grated mozzarella cheese
- 2 Tbsp chopped basil

Directions
1. Preheat oven to 425 F. Spray a baking sheet or pizza pan with vegetable oil.

2. In a bowl, combine ground beef, bread crumbs, onions, barbeque sauce, egg and garlic. Form into mini meatballs (around 20).

3. Spread tomato sauce over pizza bread, scatter meatballs on top and add grated cheese. Bake for 15 - 20 minutes or until bread browns and turns crisp.

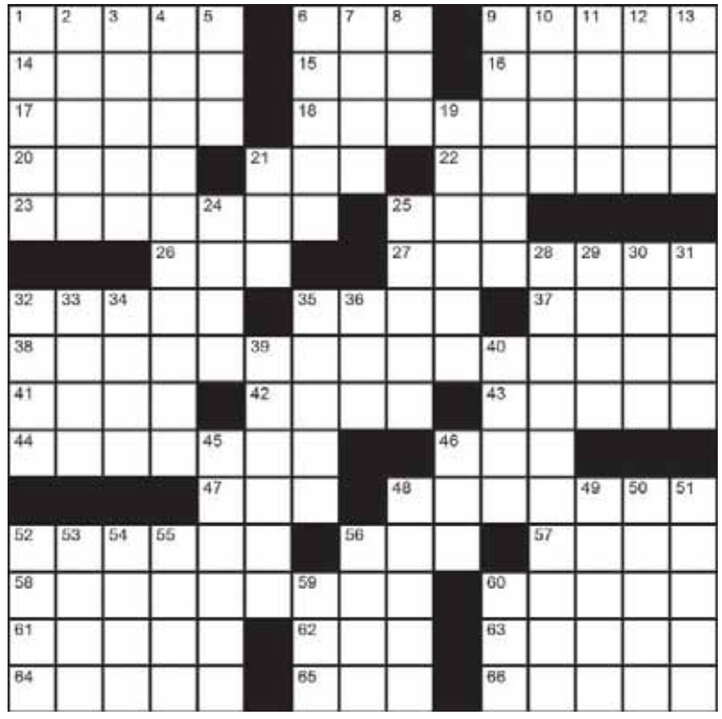
4. Garnish with basil.

Nutrition information per serving
- Calories 178
- Carbohydrates 20 g
- Fibre 0.8 g
- Protein 9.2 g
- Fat 6.5 g
- Saturated fat 2.2 g
- Cholesterol 33 mg
- Sodium 413 mg

PHOTO: ROSE REISMAN

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. "_ __. I saw. I conquered."
6. Tangle
9. Mary J. Blige's "No More __"
14. Couches
15. Ms. Lupino
16. Reddish-rose dye
17. Accumulate
18. Philippe __, Premier of Quebec
20. "What __ _ _ mind reader?"
21. Married title
22. Guns _' __ (American rockers)
23. Mount Sir Wilfrid Laurier is this BC range's highest peak, __ Mountains
25. Rusted
26. 'Moist' suffix
27. Journeys
32. Spanish wine region
35. Cat's sound
37. "The Producers" (2005) character
38. CN Tower, for example: 2 wds.
41. Gary __, Canada's Ambassador to the United States
42. Eng. is part of it: 2 wds.
43. Numbered albums songstress
44. FOX News' "The __ Factor"
46. Road type, e.g.
47. Be ill
48. Particular pickle
52. Loses one's composure in an emergency
56. Fashion designer Anna
57. Excavation for extracting
58. Pasta order
60. Countries
61. From head _ _
62. Mr. Linden
63. Accountant's review
64. Novelist's creation
65. Conclusion
66. Hillsides

DOWN
1. Abraham's offering to God
2. ,
3. Get _ __ shake
4. General Manager of the Toronto Raptors: 2 wds.
5. Cousin of -ette
6. Very tiny
7. Brouhahas
8. Greek†alphabet's 19th letter
9. Singer Lana: 2 wds.
10. Chocolate-coated caramel candy
11. Botanist Mr. Gray's
12. Muck
13. Connectors of words
19. Not on the road, as a sports team: 2 wds.
21. Canadian musician Mr. Berg
24. Kellogg's All-__
25. Intro-to-French verb
28. Montreal-born musician Melissa: 3 wds.
29. Much merriment
30. Airline of Israel: 2 wds.
31. Fully satisfy
32. Fix over again
33. "This is some priory; __, __ we are spoil'd." - Shakespeare
34. Decorative curved arch
35. Ms. Streep
36. Literary monogram
39. Church: French
40. Donated
45. Singer/host Nick
46. Sushi tuna
48. Association for crafts/trades people
49. In a way, slang-style
50. Sort of film or band
51. Aeries
52. Calif. clock settings
53. _ __ of boiling potatoes (Stove sight)
54. Intl. alliance created in 1949
55. Prince __ (Alexander Borodin opera)
56. Comic books legend Mr. Lee
59. Definite article
60. Petri dish locale

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
If something goes wrong over the next 24 hours there are two approaches you can take: either you can look round for someone to blame or you can take responsibility yourself. Make it the latter.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
There will be a clash of egos as the new week begins and although you won't be directly involved you will be affected. Under no circumstances agree to take sides, because even if you choose right you will lose out in some way.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
You will clash with someone whose opinions you don't much like today, but if you stay calm and think logically you may discover that what they are saying has an element of truth in it.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
You will find yourself up against someone who is every bit as immovable as you, so the best you can hope for is a stalemate. Don't waste your time and energy on battles like this that cannot be won.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Be careful what you say as the new week gets underway because the planets warn you could say far too much. You may have been able to laugh off your big mouth in the past but now others won't be quite so forgiving.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Your sixth sense is telling you that something is wrong with your life and needs to be fixed. There will be a lot of upheavals over the next few days – use them to disguise your own mini revolution.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
If you hesitate for even a moment today you could miss out on an opportunity that may not come again for a very long time. Make sure you stay alert over the next 24 hours.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You won't hesitate to speak your mind today but be careful because certain people have got it into their head that you could do with being taken down a peg or two. Be confident but be tactful too.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
According to the planets you have been focusing on trivia and missing the big stuff. You will mentally kick yourself later if you look back and see what you might have achieved.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
If you take a risk of some kind over money today it may pay off, but even if it does you must not cast aside your usual cautious Capricorn nature. You of all people should know that it's not about risk, it's about hard work.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
If someone promises you the world and fails to deliver today you will no doubt be angry, but you should be at least as angry with yourself as you are with them. You knew they were aiming too high and you should have told them.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
Try not to let your imagination get the better of you today, because once it heads off in a crazy direction it may be hard to bring it back to reality.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

	7			6			1	
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	9		5		4		6	
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